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Attorneys for Plaintiff Stanley Morrical,
derivatively on behalf of Hewlett-Packard
Company, in the action entitled,
Morrical v. Margaret C. Whitman, et al., 12-CV-06434

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

PHILIP RICCARDI,

Plaintiff,

v.

MICHAEL R. LYNCH, *et al.*,

Defendants,

-and-

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY,

Nominal Defendant.

CASE NO. 12-CV-06003-CRB

**REPLY MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT
OF STANLEY MORRICAL'S MOTION
FOR APPOINTMENT AS LEAD
PLAINTIFF AND APPROVAL OF A
LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE FOR
PLAINTIFFS' COUNSEL**

Date: March 1, 2013
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Ctm: 6, 17th Floor
Judge: Hon. Charles R. Breyer

[Caption continues on following page.]

**REPLY MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF STANLEY MORRICAL'S MOTION FOR
APPOINTMENT AS LEAD PLAINTIFF AND APPROVAL OF A LEADERSHIP
STRUCTURE FOR PLAINTIFFS' COUNSEL**

1 ENERSTO ESPINOZA,
2
3 Plaintiff,
4 v.
5 MICHAEL R. LYNCH, *et al.*,
6
7 Defendants,
8
9 -and-
10 HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY,
11
12 Nominal Defendant.

CASE NO. 12-CV-06025-CRB

Judge: Hon. Charles R. Breyer
Complaint Filed: November 27, 2012

13 ANDREA BASCHERI, *et al.*,
14
15 Plaintiffs,
16 v.
17 LEO APOTHEKER, *et al.*,
18
19 Defendants,
20
21 -and-
22 HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY,
23
24 Nominal Defendant.

CASE NO. 12-CV-06091-CRB

Judge: Hon. Charles R. Breyer
Complaint Filed: November 30, 2012

25 MARTIN BERTISCH,
26
27 Plaintiff,
28 v.
29 LEO APOTHEKER, *et al.*,
30
31 Defendants,
32
33 -and-
34 HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY,
35
36 Nominal Defendant.

CASE NO. 12-CV-06123-CRB

Judge: Hon. Charles R. Breyer
Complaint Filed: December 3, 2012

**REPLY MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF STANLEY MORRICAL'S MOTION FOR
APPOINTMENT AS LEAD PLAINTIFF AND APPROVAL OF A LEADERSHIP
STRUCTURE FOR PLAINTIFFS' COUNSEL**

1 THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
2 RETIREMENT AND RELIEF SYSTEM,

3 Plaintiff,

4 v.

5 LEO APOTHEKER, *et al.*,

6 Defendants,

7 -and-

8 HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY,

9 Nominal Defendant.
10

CASE NO. 12-CV-06416-CRB

Judge: Hon. Charles R. Breyer

Complaint Filed: December 18, 2012

11 JOSEPH TOLA,

12 Plaintiff,

13 v.

14 MICHAEL R. LYNCH, *et al.*,

15 Defendants,

16 -and-

17 HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY,

18 Nominal Defendant.
19

CASE NO. 12-CV-06423-CRB

Judge: Hon. Charles R. Breyer

Complaint Filed: December 18, 2012

20 STANLEY MORRICAL,

21 Plaintiff,

22 v.

23 MARGARET C. WHITMAN, *et al.*,

24 Defendants,

25 -and-

26 HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY,

27 Nominal Defendant.
28

CASE NO. 12-CV-06434-CRB

Judge: Hon. Charles R. Breyer

Complaint Filed: December 19, 2012

**REPLY MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF STANLEY MORRICAL'S MOTION FOR
APPOINTMENT AS LEAD PLAINTIFF AND APPROVAL OF A LEADERSHIP
STRUCTURE FOR PLAINTIFFS' COUNSEL**

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**NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE RELATED CASES AND
TO APPOINT LEAD PLAINTIFF AND LEAD COUNSEL**

ii

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Statutes

California Corporations Code § 1601 5

I. SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT

Before the Court are two competing motions to consolidate shareholder derivative actions filed on behalf of Hewlett Packard Company (“HP”) and to appoint lead plaintiff and lead counsel. Since all the parties agree that consolidation is appropriate, the only disputed issues are which plaintiff and which counsel are the most qualified to prosecute this action going forward. The two motions reveal significant differences between the proposed groups and demonstrate that Stanley Morrical and his counsel, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy LLP, are the most capable of serving as lead plaintiff and lead counsel.

A lead plaintiff must not only fairly and adequately represent the interests of the shareholders in enforcing the right of the corporation but also occupy a position “of a fiduciary character,” in which “the interests of all in the redress of the wrongs are taken into his hands, dependent upon his diligence, wisdom, and integrity.” *Cohen v. Beneficial Indus. Loan Corp.*, 337 U.S. 541, 549 (1949). Stanley Morrical: (1) has board of director experience; (2) has served as a fiduciary to his clients for over 20 years; (3) is an Accredited Investment Fiduciary; (4) is a participant at the Stanford University Rock Center for Corporate Governance; and (5) has a substantial economic interest in this litigation. *See* Morrical Decl. ¶ 1 (Case No. 12-cv-06434-CRB, Doc. No. 17-2). Morrical's background, experience, economic interest, and dedication to ensuring that HP adheres to the highest corporate governance standards set him apart from the other movant.

Similarly, CPM is the best law firm to serve as lead counsel in this action. In addition to its forty-five years of experience litigating shareholder derivative and securities litigation in this District, CPM has the resources, commitment, experience and ability to serve as lead counsel. Most importantly, CPM recognizes that the efforts here by all counsel should be in the interests of the same ultimate client, HP and its shareholders. Unlike the two-headed structure proposed by Robbins Arroyo and Saxena White (“Robbins/Saxena”), each of which has sought to exclude all other counsel, CPM has consistently advocated an inclusive approach to all counsel in this case. Robbins/Saxena's approach stems from a fundamental misconception that they are in opposition to other shareholders of HP and the lawyers who represent them. In a derivative case,

all of the plaintiff lawyers represent HP and share a common objective. This case only requires one lead counsel, but CPM recognizes that the appointment of an inclusive Executive Committee seeking to represent the interests of HP achieves that common objective and is the appropriate leadership structure to prosecute this action.

II. ARGUMENT

A. Morrical Should Be Appointed Lead Plaintiff

As demonstrated in the preceding papers and joinder, Morrival is the most capable shareholder to lead this litigation. He has also retained competent counsel, experienced in this field and uniquely qualified to represent the interests of HP.

Both movants are HP shareholders and have an economic stake in this litigation. Morrival, however, is the only movant who has actually demonstrated a strong commitment to pursuing this case through the exercise of his shareholder rights. In combination with his well-developed understanding of the fiduciary, corporate governance, and financial issues relevant to prosecuting this case, he is the most qualified movant to lead this action. As a sizable investor and California resident, he is the best-suited representative to pursue the derivative claims on behalf of HP.

Moreover, if the Court were to compare the relative economic stakes in this litigation, Morrival has just as much incentive – if not more – to vigorously litigate this action. The City of Birmingham Retirement and Relief System's ("Birmingham") economic interest is *de minimis*, constituting less than one thousandth of one percent (0.001%) of its assets under management. Morrival, in contrast, holds 1,700 shares with a market value of \$20,000, and this represents far more than one thousandth of one percent of his personal assets. *See Kubiak v. Barbas*, No. 3:11-cv-141, 2011 WL 2443715, at *2 (S.D. Ohio June 14, 2011) (“Courts do not mechanically look to the plaintiff with the largest number of shares; instead, the test is the relative size of the shares.”); *Wiehl v. Eon Labs*, No. Civ. A. 1116-N, 2005 WL 696764, at *3 (Del. Ch. Mar. 22, 2005) (“If every difference in economic stakes were given great weight, the court could simply add up the number of shares and select the law firm with the largest absolute representation.

This is not Delaware law.”); *see also In re Del Monte Foods Co. S’holders Litig.*, C.A. No. 6027–VCL, 2010 WL 5550677, at *5 (Del. Ch. Dec. 30, 2010) (noting that it is “wise to be cautious about adopting a bright-line rule turning solely on the proposed plaintiff’s equity stake”). When analyzed relative to HP’s approximately 1.95 billion outstanding shares, neither Birmingham nor Morrical can claim more than a “miniscule” ownership – Morrical owns 0.000000615% of HP’s shares and Birmingham owns 0.000036% of HP’s shares. Accordingly, Birmingham’s stake in HP is “simply not large enough to demonstrate a substantial relative difference that would require the court to give this factor great weight.” *Wiehl*, 2005 WL 696764, at *3.

The Court should reject Birmingham’s contention that it has superior standing because it “possesses complete diversity of citizenship.” *See Robbins/Saxena Opp. Br.*, at p. 5 (Case No. 12-cv-06434-CRB, Doc. No. 29). At the outset, this Court has subject-matter jurisdiction because Morrical and Birmingham allege claims under the federal securities laws. Moreover, two of the defendants named in Birmingham’s complaint are limited liability partnerships. *See Birmingham Compl.* ¶ 35 (Deloitte LLP), ¶ 36 (Perella Weinberg) (Case No. 12-cv-06416-CRB, Doc. No. 8-1). For purposes of diversity jurisdiction, a limited liability partnership is a citizen of all of the states of which its partners are citizens. *Carden v. Arkoma Assocs.*, 494 U.S. 185, 195-96 (1990); *Johnson v. Columbia Props. Anchorage, LP*, 437 F.3d 894, 899 (9th Cir. 2006); *Reisman v. KPMG Peat Marwick LLP*, 965 F. Supp. 165, 176-77 (D. Mass. 1997). Therefore, Birmingham has not met its burden of demonstrating the citizenship of each of Deloitte’s and Perella Weinberg’s partners.¹ *See Lew v. Moss*, 797 F.2d 747, 749 (9th Cir. 1986) (“[T]he party asserting diversity jurisdiction bears the burden of proof.”); *Nguyen v. BrooksAmerica*, No. CV 09-7054-JFW (VBKx), 2009 WL 3162435, at *1 (C.D. Cal. Sept. 29, 2009) (dismissing for lack of subject matter jurisdiction where, among other things, plaintiffs “failed to allege the

¹ Instead, Birmingham merely alleges that Deloitte and Perella Weinberg are citizens of the United Kingdom because both of their principal executive offices are located in London, United Kingdom. *Birmingham Compl.* ¶¶ 35-36.

1 citizenship [of] each member of the LLC defendant”). Accordingly, the Court should reject
 2 Birmingham’s reliance on “complete diversity.”²

3 **B. CPM Is Uniquely Qualified To Serve As Lead Counsel**

4 In selecting lead counsel the Court should consider several factors, including each firm's
 5 experience, commitment and ability to best serve the interests of the plaintiffs. While each firm
 6 seeking appointment in this action has shareholder derivative and securities litigation experience,
 7 no other movant has been doing it as long and as effectively as CPM.³

8 Because of its experience and success litigating complex cases, including numerous
 9 shareholder derivative suits, CPM has the support of more firms than Robbins/Saxena. While
 10 CPM has been successfully prosecuting shareholder derivative and securities cases for four
 11 decades, including cases involving top Silicon Valley companies such as HP, CPM does not
 12 believe that no other law firm or lawyer can contribute to the successful prosecution of a case
 13 against HP. Bottini and Bottini, Inc., Cafferty Clobes Meriwether & Sprengel LLP and
 14 Finkelstein Thompson LLP, all of which are well-respected shareholder derivative and securities
 15 class action law firms, have joined CPM's motion as well as filing joinders and declarations in
 16 support. Their support strengthens CPM’s ability to lead the prosecution of the consolidated
 17 action and is also indicative of CPM's capabilities, experience, and ability to work with others to
 18 successfully prosecute this action.

19
 20
 21 ² Furthermore, Deloitte LLP (U.S.) *does* have an office and partners in Alabama. *See* Deloitte
 22 Office Locator, http://www.deloitte.com/view/en_US/us/officelocator?key_OfficeCountry=US
 23 (last visited Feb. 14, 2013). To the extent the U.S. entity would become necessary as a
 Defendant later on, its joinder would clearly destroy any diversity alleged by Birmingham.

24 ³ CPM has a multi-faceted practice. CPM's success in cases outside of the shareholder
 25 derivative area is not a knock against CPM but a compliment to its lawyers’ ability to litigate
 26 complex cases. Regardless, CPM has been successfully litigating shareholder derivative cases in
 27 this District for decades, and well before either Robbins Arroyo f/k/a Robbins Umeda or Saxena
 28 White were even formed. Just this week, CPM was one of only ten firms to be named in the
 National Law Journal's Litigation Boutique Hot List, based on its class and derivative work.
Edling Decl., ¶ 2, Exh. A.

1 **1. CPM Has Methodically and Vigorously Prosecuted This Litigation**

2 Instead of rushing to file a complaint just days after HP announced the write down of
3 \$8.8 billion, CPM and its client conducted a careful and thorough investigation of **facts**.
4 Additionally, **prior to filing a complaint**, CPM's client exercised his shareholder rights under
5 California law and requested the books and records related to Autonomy pursuant to California
6 Corporations Code § 1601.

7 It is well settled in California that corporate accounting records “shall be open to
8 inspection upon the written demand on the corporation of any shareholder . . . at any reasonable
9 time during usual business hours, for a purpose reasonably related to such holder’s interests as a
10 shareholder.” Cal. Corp. Code § 1601(a). Here, Morrical exercised those rights prior to filing
11 this lawsuit. The Robbins/Saxena opposition fails to cite even a single decision in which a court
12 frowns upon a California resident exercising his shareholder rights prior to filing a shareholder
13 derivative suit. The reason is quite simple: California law allows it, and Delaware law is
14 irrelevant to a shareholder's rights under the California statute. Even if Delaware law were
15 applicable to Morrical's inspection demand, which it is not, the Delaware cases cited by
16 Robbins/Saxena **all** involve the **simultaneous** filing of a shareholder derivative complaint and a
17 books-and-records request under the Delaware inspection demand statute (Delaware General
18 Corporate Law code section 220). *See* Robbins/Saxena Opp. Br. at p. 8-9 (Case No. 12-cv-
19 06434-CRB, Doc. 29). Here, Morrical demanded inspection **before** filing a shareholder
20 derivative suit. After HP placed preconditions on its statutory obligation to search for and permit
21 inspection of documents, Morrical filed his verified petition for writ of mandate for the
22 inspection of corporate books and records in Santa Clara County. Edling Decl., ¶ 3, Exh. B.
23 Moreover, CPM, on behalf of its client, has now entered into a confidentiality agreement, which
24 will allow for any lead plaintiff, lead counsel or executive committee member and their clients to
25 review the books and records that Morrical obtains through his request for records in this
26 litigation. *Id.* at ¶ 4.

2. Robbins Arroyo and Saxena White's Litigation Tactics Have Been Wasteful and Unproductive

Rather than explain why it filed complaints just days after HP's write down or why it filed three separate complaints on behalf of three separate plaintiffs, all purportedly on behalf of HP, Robbins/Saxena argue that Morrical's decision to conduct a substantial pre-suit investigation should count against his motion for lead plaintiff and CPM's appointment as lead counsel. The opposite is true. The very cases that Robbins/Saxena cite in support of their "sue first and ask questions later" litigation approach state the opposite. *See Biondi v. Scrushy*, 820 A.2d 1148, 1159 (Del. Ch. 2003) ("The mere fact that a lawyer filed first for a representative client is scant evidence of his adequacy and may, in fact, support the contrary inference.").⁴

As this case demonstrates, the longer a plaintiff takes to investigate and file a case is typically indicative of greater adequacy. Although Morrical filed his complaint a few weeks after Robbins Arroyo's first two complaints, his complaint is far more detailed, including numerous allegations not found in any of the three complaints Robbins Arroyo filed, including the Birmingham complaint, which was also filed prior to Morrical's complaint. *See, e.g.*, allegations that Defendants concealed from the public that the purported revolutionary product HP gained through its acquisition of Autonomy – the integrated Next Generation Information Platform Idol 10 – never existed (Complaint, ¶¶ 2-15; 78, 95-98); public material misstatements that such a product existed and was available for sale (Complaint, ¶¶ 133-173; 195-198); the connection between this absent technology and HP's write-down (Complaint, ¶¶ 174-177); as well as detailed "demand futility" allegations (Complaint, ¶¶ 211-248).

In fact, Birmingham had to file an errata sheet attaching a "corrected complaint" just weeks after its filing. *See* Case No. 12-cv-06416-CRB, Doc. No. 8. Curiously, the need for errata and amendment is never mentioned in either of Robbins/Saxena's papers. Of course, the

⁴ *Moradi v. Adelson*, No. 1-cv-00490-GMN-RJJ, 2011 WL 5025155, at *3 (D. Nev. Oct. 20, 2011), cites only *Biondi* for the application of the first-filed factor, which, as stated above, is inconsistent with Robbins/Saxena's approach to this litigation.

1 difference in the quality of the complaints is a factor the Court can consider here. *Dollens v.*
 2 *Zionts*. Nos. 01 C 5931, 01 C 2826, 2001 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 19966, at *13-14, (N.D. Ill. Dec. 4,
 3 2001).

4 Robbins Arroyo filed its first shareholder derivative complaint on November 26, 2012.
 5 The complaint for Birmingham, which Robbins/Saxena trumpet as their star client, was filed on
 6 December 18, 2012 and is virtually identical to the November 26, 2012 complaint. It would
 7 appear that during that three week interval, Robbins/Saxena conducted no additional
 8 investigation to ensure that their later-filed complaint kept up to date with all of the latest
 9 developments in the HP-Autonomy scandal, an oversight that is telling, especially in a situation
 10 such as this where new facts and new information were being uncovered on a daily basis.

11 Robbins/Saxena claim to have done more than CPM to advance the litigation. Yet, other
 12 than filing the first complaint, Robbins/Saxena fail to distinguish themselves. Moreover, the
 13 failure of Robbins/Saxena to keep abreast of the HP-Autonomy scandal as new facts emerged in
 14 the weeks after the original November 20, 2012 announcement of the Autonomy write down
 15 belies the assertion that Robbins/Saxena have advanced this litigation. They claim to have led
 16 the effort to "coordinate and organize the related actions." The opposite is true. As detailed in
 17 the declarations of Francis A Bottini and Bryan L. Clobes filed concurrently herewith, CPM is
 18 the only movant to have advocated a collegial and inclusive approach which it has maintained
 19 throughout this litigation.

20 **3. Courts Favor Coordination Efforts to Organize the Leadership** 21 **Structure and Regularly Appoint Executive Committees**

22 Courts have generally agreed that where more than one similar case is filed, cooperation
 23 among counsel will lead to more efficient prosecution. *See Dutiel v. Tween Brands, Inc.*, Civil
 24 Action Nos. 4743-CC, 4845-CC, 2009 WL 3208287, at *2 (Del. Ch. Oct. 2, 2009) ("This Court
 25 always prefers that plaintiffs' counsels work out an appropriate consolidation compromise.");
 26 *Wiehl*, 2005 WL 696764, at *3 ("This court has frequently stated its position that the plaintiffs'
 27 lawyers should work out the lead counsel or other leadership structure among themselves. . . .
 28 But the process for choosing lead counsel must be fair and include all firms."); *Hirt v. U.S.*

1 *Timberlands Serv. Co.*, No. CIV.A. 19575, 2002 WL 1558342, at *2 (Del. Ch. July 3, 2002)
 2 (“[T]he court recognizes that it is customary and desirable, where multiple lawsuits are filed
 3 relating to the same transaction or set of facts, for the plaintiffs’ lawyers involved to meet and
 4 vote on an organizational structure for the prosecution of the litigation. While such a decision is
 5 not binding on the court, it will be accorded weight when the outcome is challenged by one or
 6 more of the litigants or their counsel, unless it appears to have been improperly obtained.”).

7 In the present case, counsel for Morrical attempted to coordinate the efforts of all the
 8 lawyers in these related actions to meet and agree on an organizational structure for the
 9 prosecution of the litigation. *See* Declaration of Mark C. Molumphy In Support of Plaintiffs’
 10 Motion, ¶ 14 (“Molumphy Decl.”) (Case No. 12-cv-06434, Doc. No. 17-1); Bottini Decl., ¶¶ 9-
 11 11; Clobes Decl., ¶¶ 5-8. Counsel for Bascheri, Chung and Tola supported those efforts.
 12 Counsel for Birmingham, however, did not, indicating that the only organizational structure that
 13 it would accept was it being appointed as sole lead counsel, with no other law firm’s
 14 participation. *See id.* In the absence of Saxena White’s and Robbins Arroyo’s participation, the
 15 remaining lawyers agreed that CPM should serve as Lead Counsel, with the remaining firms
 16 (including Saxena White and Robbins Arroyo, if they would still be willing to participate)
 17 serving on the Executive Committee. *id.*

18 Moreover, contrary to Birmingham’s assertion, courts regularly appoint an executive
 19 committee to help prosecute large shareholder derivative cases. Such a structure is particularly
 20 appropriate in this case. Aside from the individual HP officers and directors, the suits name two
 21 large accounting firms and two large financial advisory firms as defendants, which will require
 22 additional discovery and briefing resources. Indeed, both Saxena White and Robbins Arroyo
 23 have previously requested and endorsed the use of an executive committee in derivative cases.
 24 *See, e.g., In re Citigroup Inc. S’holder Derivative Litig.*, Lead Case No. 12-cv-3114 JPO, Doc.
 25 No. 18, ¶¶ 2, 5 (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 2, 2012) (appointing Robbins Umeda and another firm as Co-
 26 Chairs of the Executive Committee and appointing another firm as Liaison Counsel); *In re*
 27 *Johnson & Johnson Derivative Litig.*, 10-cv-2033 FLW (DEA), Doc. No. 65, ¶¶ 4, 6 (D.N.J.
 28 Aug. 17, 2010) (granting the motion filed by Saxena White and six other firms, and appointing

four firms as Co-Lead Counsel, with the responsibility to form an Executive Committee, and another two firms to co-chair the Discovery Management and Merits Analysis Committee). These authorities support appointing CPM as Lead Counsel in this action with the support of an Executive Committee.

III. CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above and in the preceding filings, Plaintiffs Morrical, Bascheri, Chung and Tola respectfully request that the Court (1) consolidate the related HP derivative actions; (2) appoint Morrical to serve as Lead Plaintiff; and (3) appoint CPM to serve as Lead Counsel and Chair of an Executive Committee.

DATED: February 15, 2013

COTCHETT, PITRE & McCARTHY, LLP

By: /s/

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DATED: February 15, 2013

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